Chinese emigration was a source of friction. The Chinese were utilizing the new facilities for trade and navigation to spread beyond the borders of the Empire. Some of the emigration was in the form of a contract labor which was little better than slavery, but by 1880 most of the abuses had been prohibited by agreements between China and the powers or by unilateral action of the powers. The emigration to the United States aroused much opposition in the Pacific coast states, particularly in California, where Chinese came into competition with native American white labor. After much unpleasantness, including anti-Chinese riots, the United States, partially with the consent of China, suspended the further admission of Chinese laborers. Eventually, after 1900, without the .consent of China, she prohibited it entirely.

Here and there some of the powers encroached on China's territory and on her vassal states. In the South, France extended her protectorate over Cambodia (1863), annexed three more provinces of Annam (1867), and (1874) obtained from Annam extraterritoriality for all Europeans, the opening of the Red River to navigation, and of more ports to commerce. In 1883 and 1884, due to a renewal of French pressure, Annam recognized the protectorate of France. China, disturbed by these attacks on a vassal state and by an arrangement that would end her suzerainty, protested. Hostilities followed, although of a somewhat desultory nature and with China helpless before the high-handed French. In 1885 the difficulty was ended by Chinese recognition of the French protectorate of Annam and freedom of trade between Tongking and the adjoining Chinese provinces, but without the indemnity which the French had demanded.

In 1886 Great Britain annexed that part of Burma which she had not previously seized. In that same year China formally recognized the change, but with the provision that the decennial Burmese "tribute" mission was still to be sent to Peking.

In 1887 China agreed to what was really an accomplished fact and ceded Macao to Portugal, but with the provision that it should never be alienated without her consent.

During the rebellions in the far West of the Empire, Russia, to safeguard her trade across that region, occupied much of III with the promise that she would restore it to China when the latter was able to maintain order there. When Tso Tsung-t'ang had